

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A transmission data generation method, comprising:

- a fixed block size setting step of setting the size of a fixed block based on the overhead;
- a variable block setting step of ~~determining~~ calculating each time the size of a variable block which cannot be divided by said fixed block and the overhead of the variable block for each segment of the contents when the size of the segment is not an integer multiplication of the size of the fixed block;
- a segment size calculation step of calculating the size of a segment for each segment of the contents based on the size of the said fixed block;
- a segment division step of dividing the contents into segments according to the calculated size of said segment;
- a block division step of dividing said divided segment into blocks; and
- a meta contents creation step for creating the contents into meta contents by adding overhead for each one of said divided blocks,

wherein when the size of segment is an integer multiplication of the size of the fixed block, the overhead for each segment is set based on the overhead in said fixed block, and when the size of the segment is not an integer multiplication of the size of the fixed block, the overhead for each segment is ~~[[set]]~~ calculated each time based on the overhead in said fixed block and the overhead in the variable block of said segment.

2. (Currently Amended) A transmission data generation method, comprising:

- a fixed block size setting step of setting the size of a fixed block based on the overhead;

a fixed block playout time calculation ~~[[stop]]~~ step of calculating the playout time of said fixed block based on the size of said fixed block;

a variable block setting step of ~~determining~~ calculating each time the size or playout time of a variable block which cannot be divided by said fixed block and the overhead of the variable block for each segment of the contents when the size of the segment is not an integer multiplication of the size of the fixed block;

a playout time calculation step of calculating the playout time of a segment for each segment of the contents based on the playout time of said fixed block;

a transmission time calculation step of calculating the transmission time of a segment for each segment of the contents based on the calculated playout time of the segment;

a segment division step of dividing the contents into segments according to said calculated transmission time of the segment;

a block division step of dividing said divided segment into blocks; and

a meta contents creation step for creating the contents into meta contents by adding overhead for each one of said divided blocks,

wherein when the size of segment is an integer multiplication of the size of the fixed block, the overhead for each segment is set based on the overhead in said fixed block, and when the size of the segment is not an integer multiplication of the size of the fixed block, the overhead for each segment is ~~[[set]]~~ calculated each time based on the overhead in said fixed block and the overhead in the variable block of said segment.

3. (Original) The transmission data generation method according to Claim 2, wherein in said fixed block size setting step, the size of said fixed block is set so that the overhead becomes a small value.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) The transmission data generation method according to Claim 3, further comprising:

a fixed block transmission time calculation step of calculating the transmission time of said fixed block based on the playout time of said fixed block;

a fixed block count calculation step of calculating the number of fixed blocks included in the segment for each segment of the contents based on the transmission time of said segment and the transmission time of said fixed block; and

a total fixed block playout time calculation step of calculating the playout time of all the fixed blocks included in the segment for each segment of the contents based on said calculated number of fixed blocks and the playout time of said fixed block,

wherein in said playout time calculation step, the playout time of all the fixed blocks included in said segment is regarded as the playout time of the segment for each segment of the contents when the size of the segment is an integer multiplication of the size of the fixed block, and when the size of the segment is not an integer multiplication of the size of the fixed block, the playout time of the segment is calculated based on the playout time of a variable block of said segment and the playout time of all the fixed blocks included in said segment.

6. (Original) The data generation method according to Claim 5, wherein in said variable block setting step, the product of the playout time of said variable block and the overhead in said variable block is determined for each segment of the contents using the playout time of all the fixed blocks included in said segment and transmission time of said segment, and the playout time of said variable block and the overhead in said variable block are determined from said product using a predetermined numerical analysis method.

7. (Currently Amended) A transmission data generation equipment, comprising:  
time calculation means which sets the size of a fixed block based on the overhead, calculates the playout time of the fixed block based on the size of said fixed block, calculates the playout time of a segment for each segment of the contents based on the playout time of said fixed block, and calculates the transmission time of a segment based on the calculated playout time of the segment;

division means which divides the contents into segments according to the transmission time of the segment calculated by said time calculation means and divides said divided segments into blocks; and

meta contents means for converting the contents into meta contents by adding the overhead for each block divided by said division means,

wherein when the size of a segment is an integer multiplication of the size of the fixed block, said time calculation means calculates each time the overhead for each segment based on the overhead in said fixed block, and when the size of a segment is not an integer multiplication of the size of the fixed block, said time calculation means determines the playout time of an variable block which cannot be divided by said fixed block and the overhead in the

variable block, and [[sets]] calculates each time the overhead for each segment based on the overhead in said fixed block and the overhead in the variable block of said segment.

8. (Original) The transmission data generation equipment according to Claim 7, wherein said time calculation means sets the size of said fixed block so that the overhead becomes a small value.

9. (Cancelled)